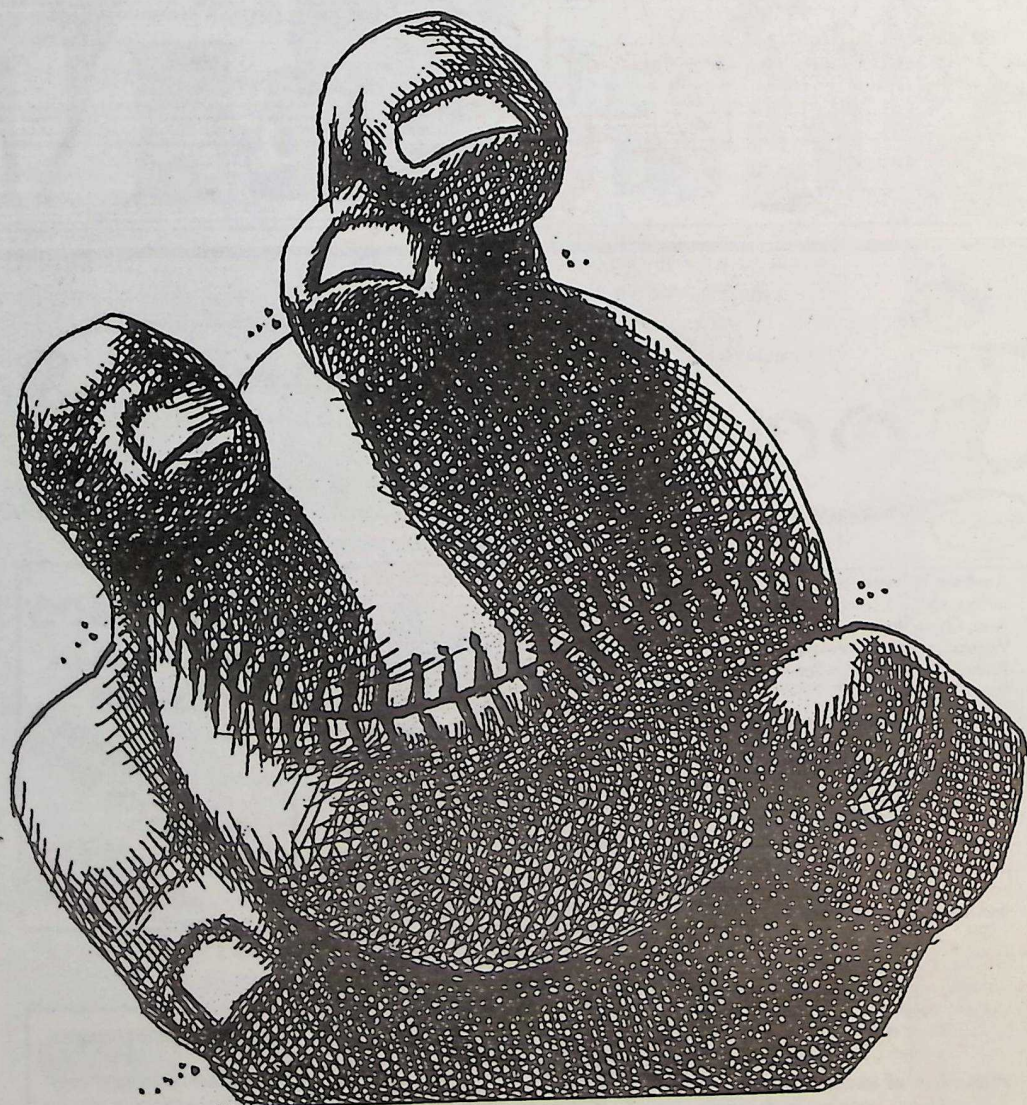


EPIISODE #132
April 20 , 1995

The Valley 66 COMIC

N ♦ E ♦ W ♦ S

ASIN



ENTERTAINMENT LISTINGS!!

STORIES:
BEYOND POLITIX
THE DOLLAR IS DOWN
AROUND THE WORLD...
...IN WEIGHTY WAYS
USA TODAY

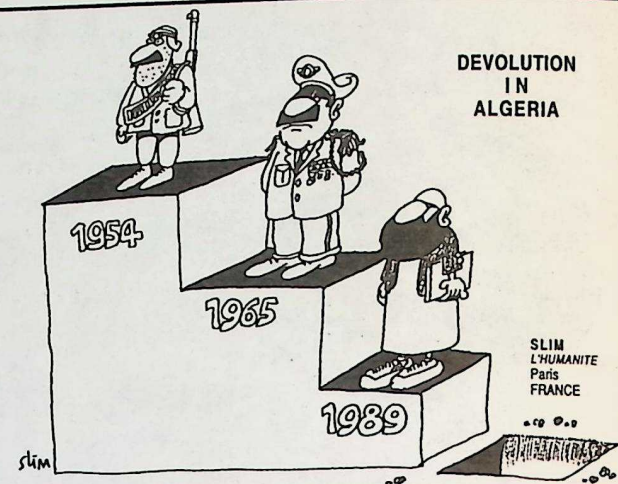
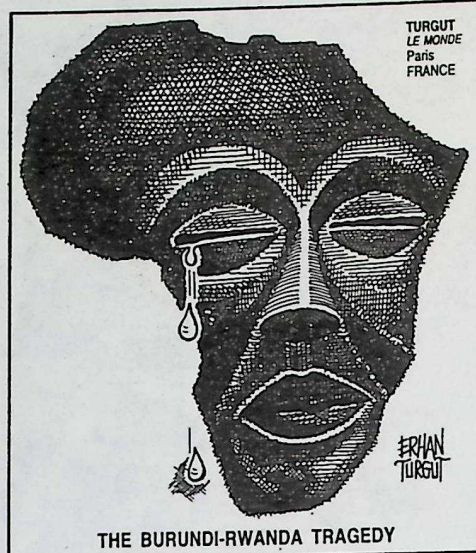
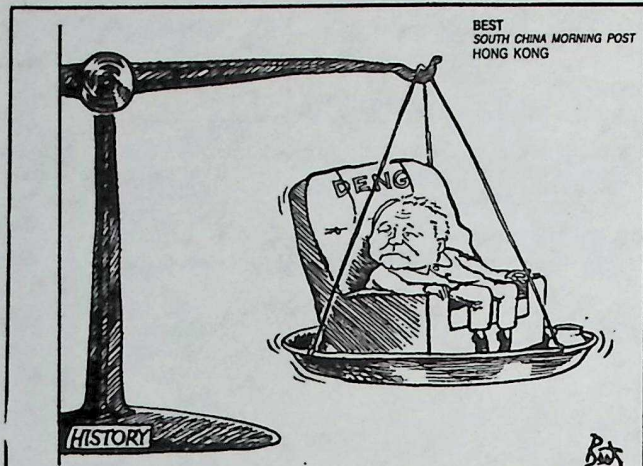
INSIDE

FEATURES:
THE FAR SIDE
DOONESBURY,
CALVIN & HOBBS,
VIEWS OF THE WORLD,
TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT,
L.A. CUCARACHA,
MIKE CHRISMAN,
EARTHWEEK,
LEOLD



VIEWS OF THE WORLD

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Food

Potatoes Peaches Plums Cherries Strawbe

Asparagus Broccoli Cauliflower Eggplant

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PAGE THREE

by Mike Chrisman

??

Dear Answer Guy,

Q: You know on "Superman" on TV? How nobody can figure out it's Clark? I mean, don't they ever notice Clark never gets a zit? Or a shaving cut! Most guys I work with come in every day with zits and shaving cuts or sometimes a black-and-blue place where they got an elbow playing Ultimate Frisbee. Clark never even gets a cold. If I worked at the "Daily Planet," I'd be like, "I've known you for three years, Clark, and I've never heard you sneeze. What are you — Superman?"

A: You took the words right out of my mouth. As soon as you get a job with the "Daily Planet," please write me immediately and tell me if this approach worked. You could also sneak up behind him and try to cut his hair.

Dear Answer Guy,

Q: I don't understand Newt Gingrich and this tax credit thing. Explain to me why a family bringing in \$200,000 — that's 100k for him and 100k for her — why they need a tax credit for their kid.

A: Please. Rich people have different expectations than you and me. First off, there's the private tuition — two kids, going K-12 ... it adds up. And lots of little things. Rich kids can't shop at The Gap. It's demeaning; it leads to years of expensive therapy when they grow up. Do you want to be responsible for today's rich kids — i.e., tomorrow's leaders — having breakdowns in the middle of the corporate boardroom? What kind of a patriot are you, anyway?

Dear Answer Guy,

Q: Won't we be narrowing the range of news reporting if NPR loses its funding? After all, they were the first — and for awhile they were the only — network to really get into the whole Watergate business. I mean, some people think they're way too liberal, and some people think they're way too conservative, but they sure give you more in-depth coverage than any two other radio networks.

A: Methinks the writer protesteth too much. Yes, commercial broadcasting is funded by multi-national corporations whose primary concern is making money, often using incredibly cheap foreign laborers in horrific working conditions. That's no reason to think they wouldn't jump at the chance to fund news programming that investigates working conditions of foreign laborers. Seriously, just because they're a mega-billion dollar industry doesn't mean they don't want people to know the truth.

Dear Answer Guy,

Q: I know all the statistics about how much safer you are in a car wearing a seat belt, but I still feel like it shouldn't be a law, you know? Shouldn't we have a choice?

A: I say, Repeal the seat belt law. In fact repeal all traffic laws. For example, right now it's illegal to drive at night without your lights on. Can you believe it? I say, if I can stay out of other cars' way without my lights on, hey, who is the government to tell me I can't see in the dark? Safety, shmafety — it's an issue of personal freedom.

(Confidential to young readers: some of the items in today's Answer Guy column are examples of "satire" — a potentially lethal literary device. Don't try "satire" at home without asking your parents, and never try anything dangerous just because Answer Guy says you should. Cutting Superman's hair, for instance.)

The Valley Comic News

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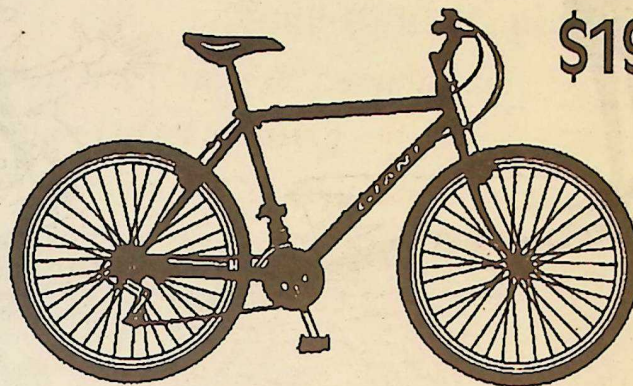
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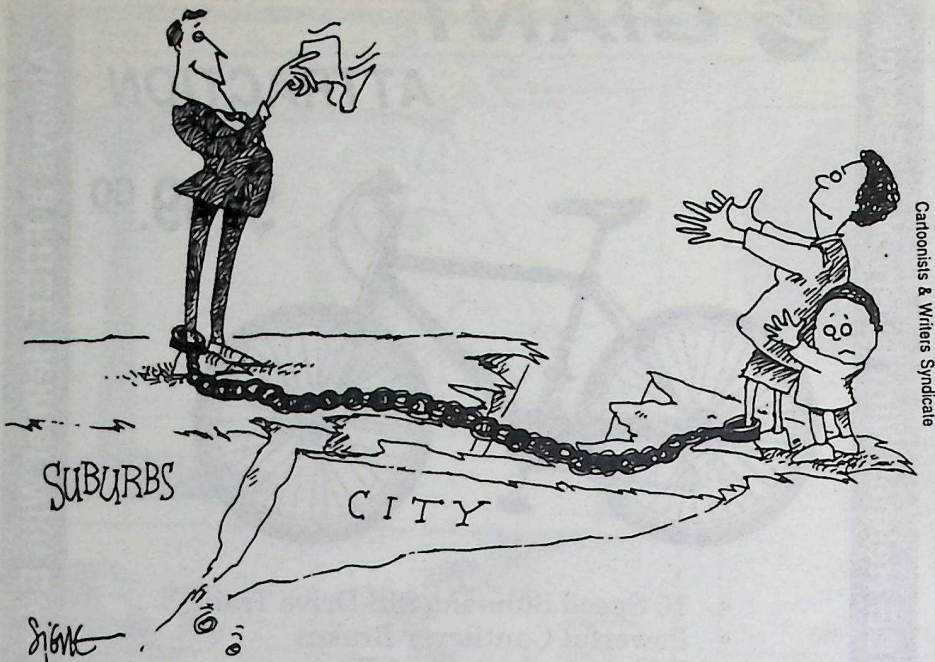
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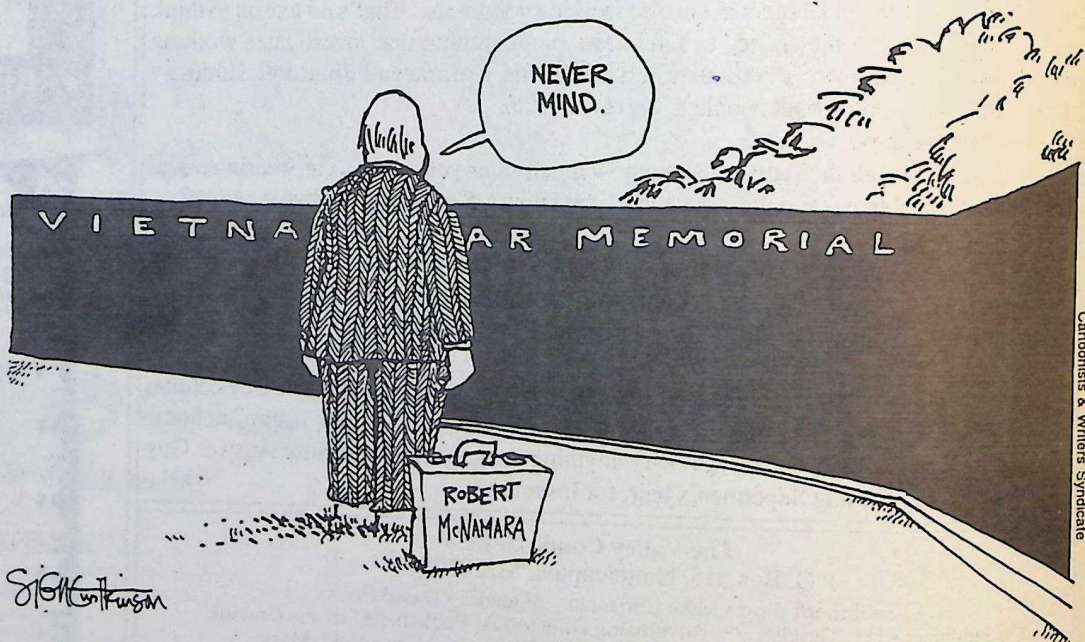
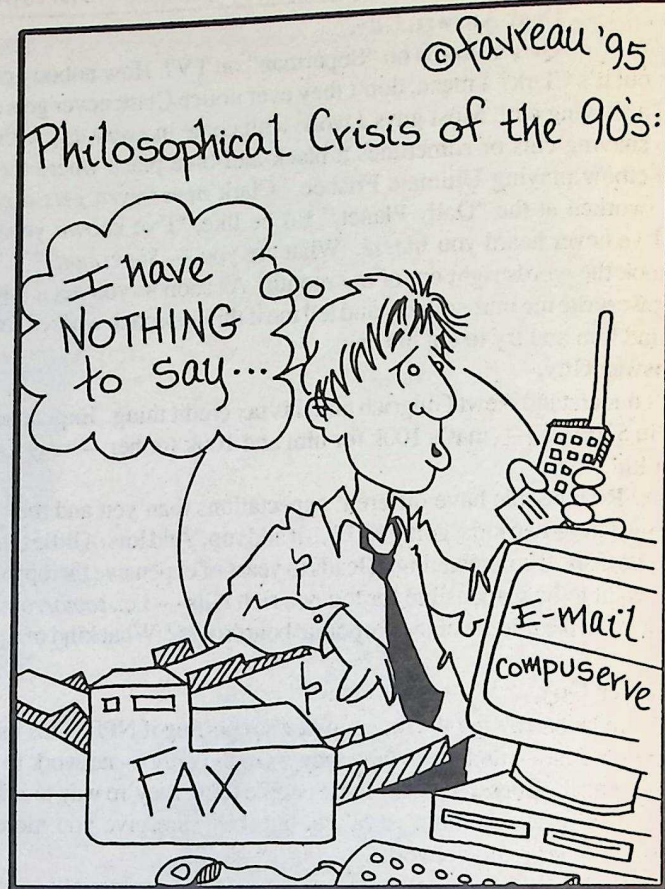
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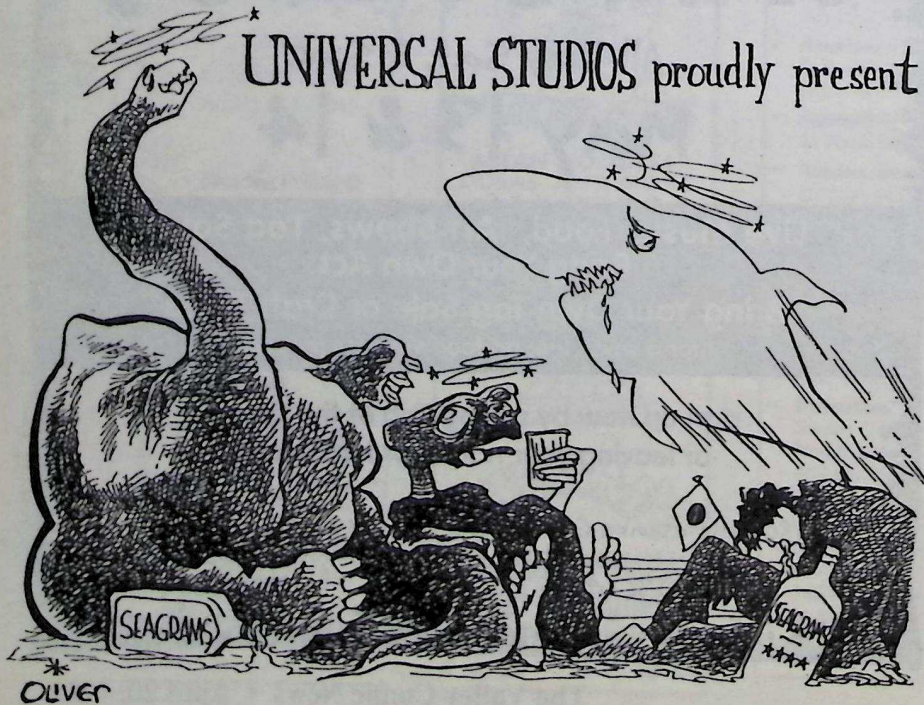
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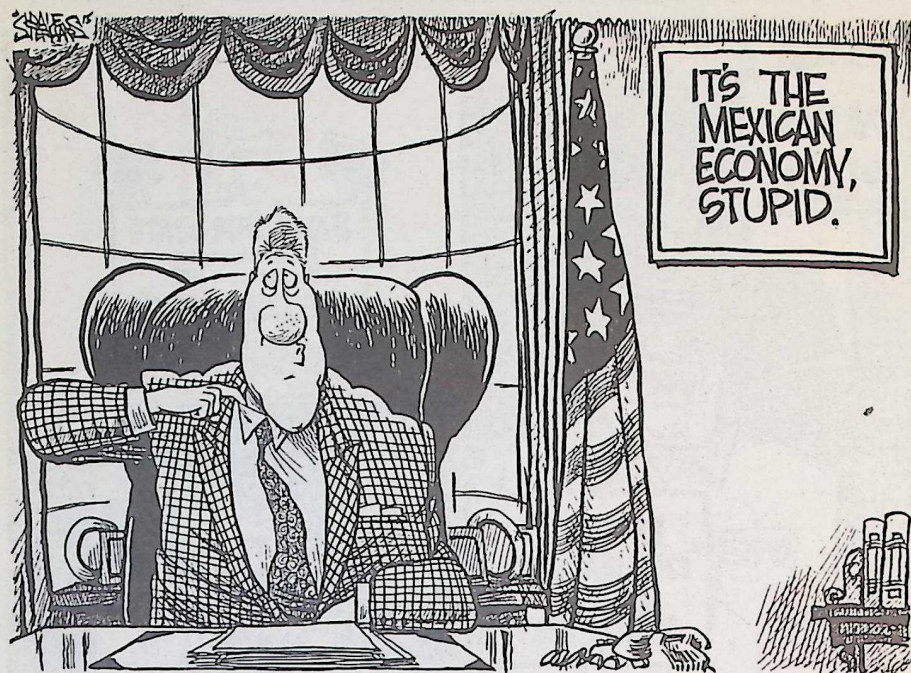
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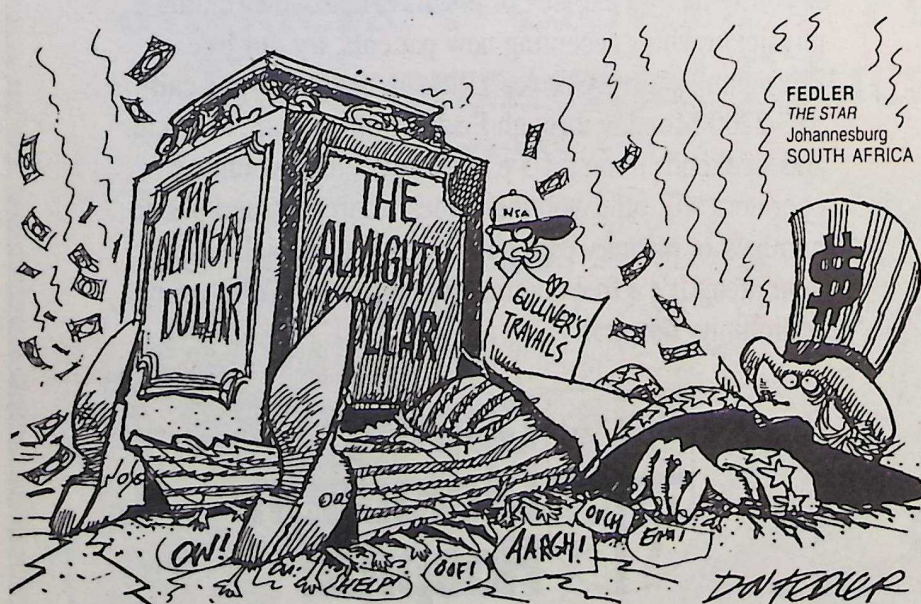
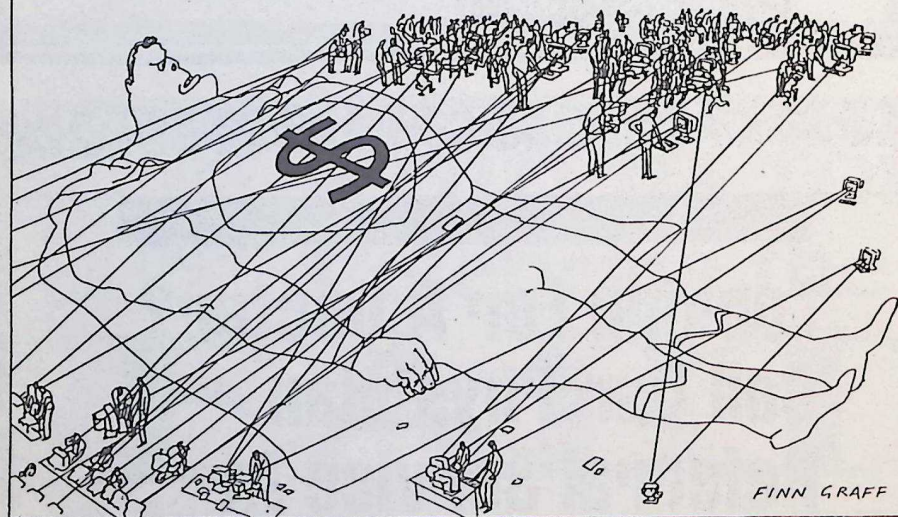


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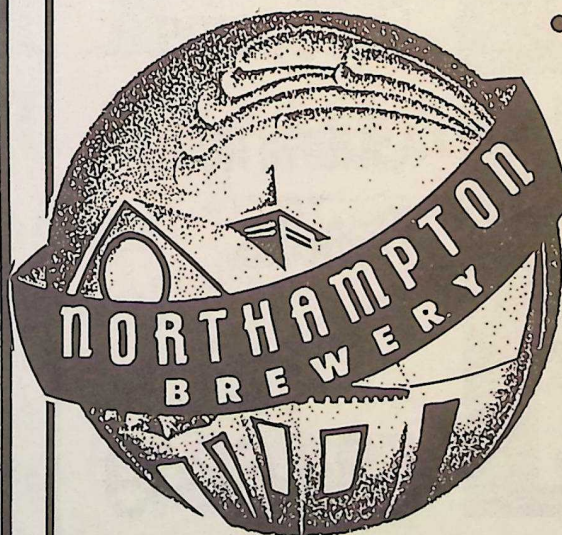
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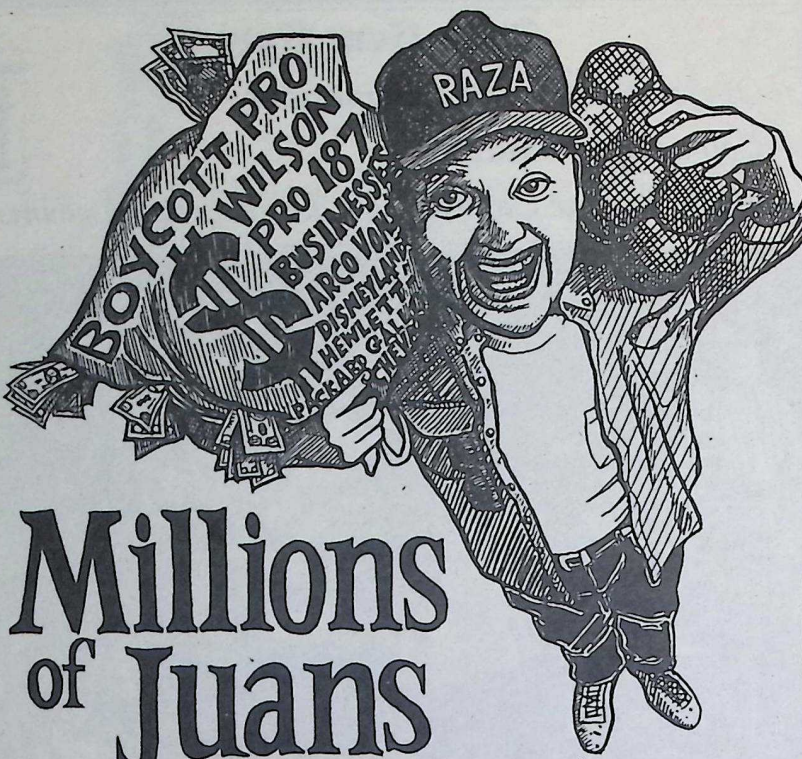


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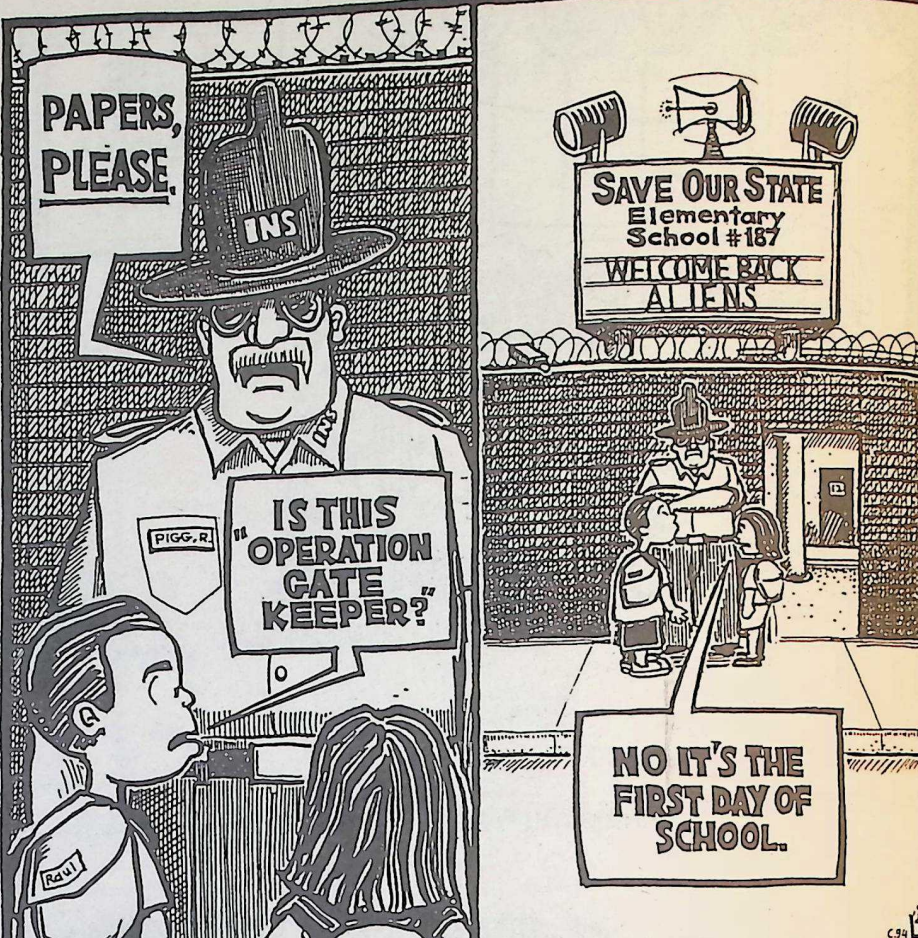
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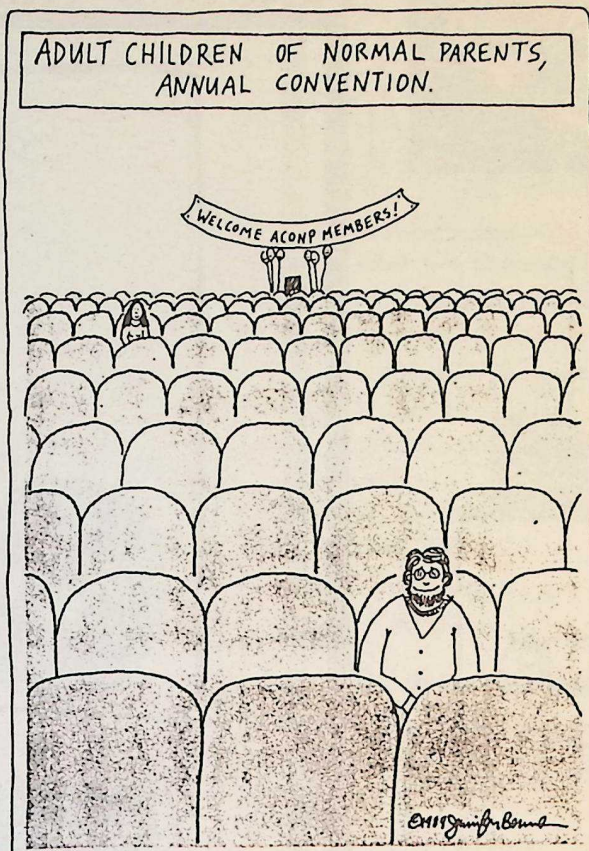
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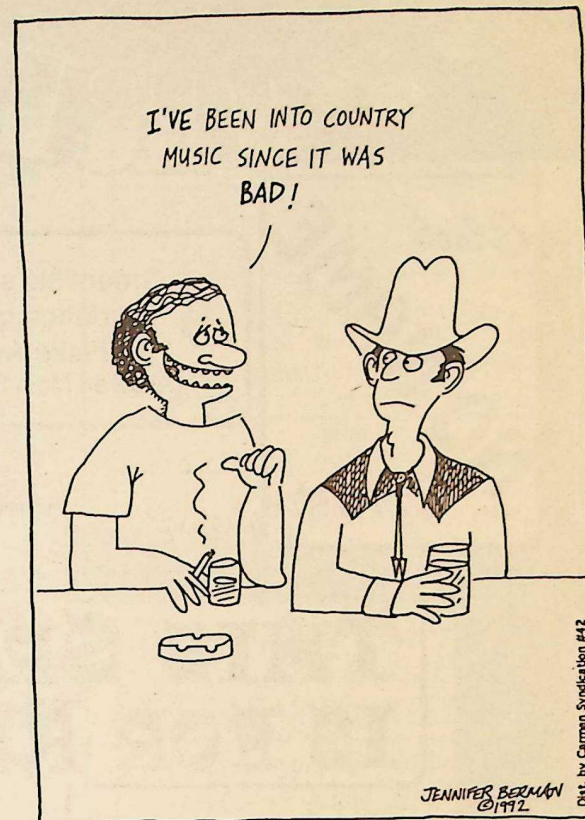
BEYOND POLITIX



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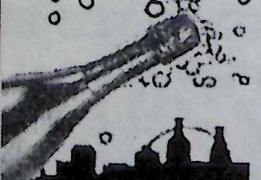
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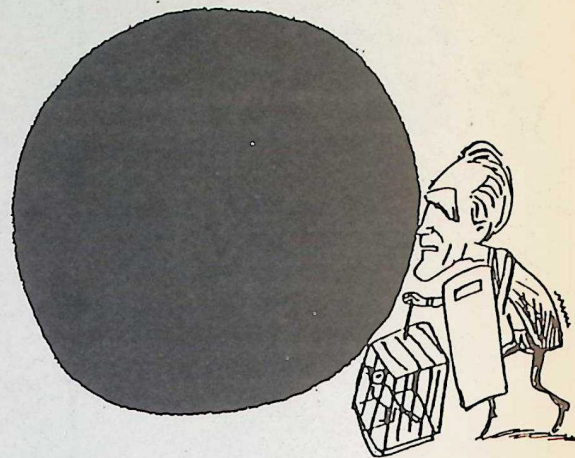
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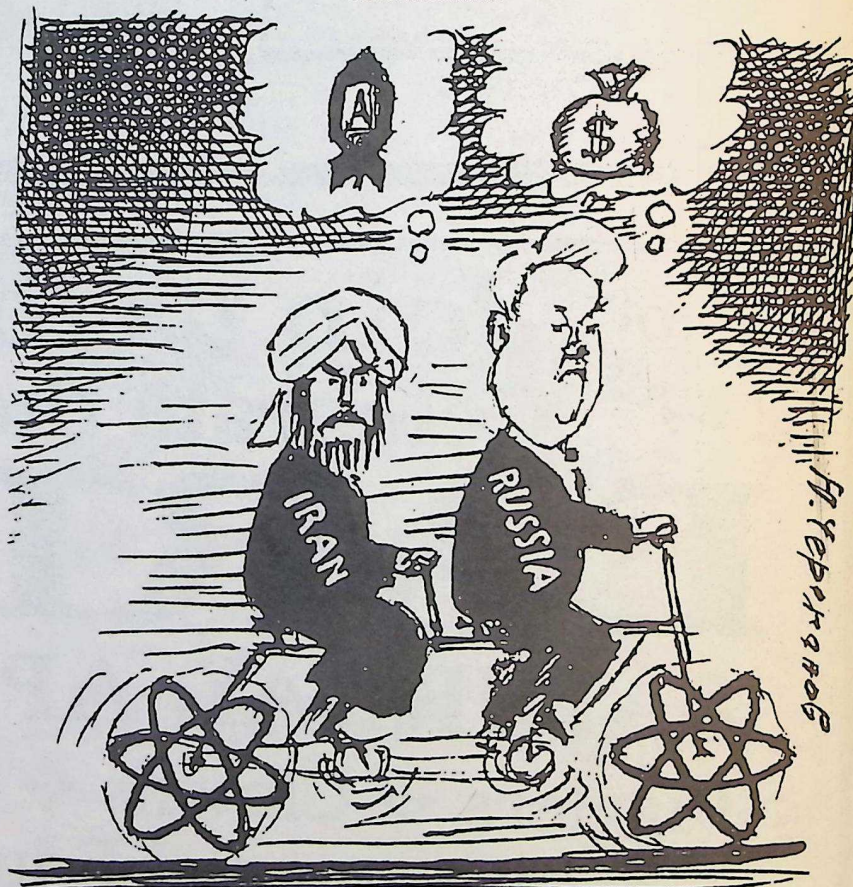
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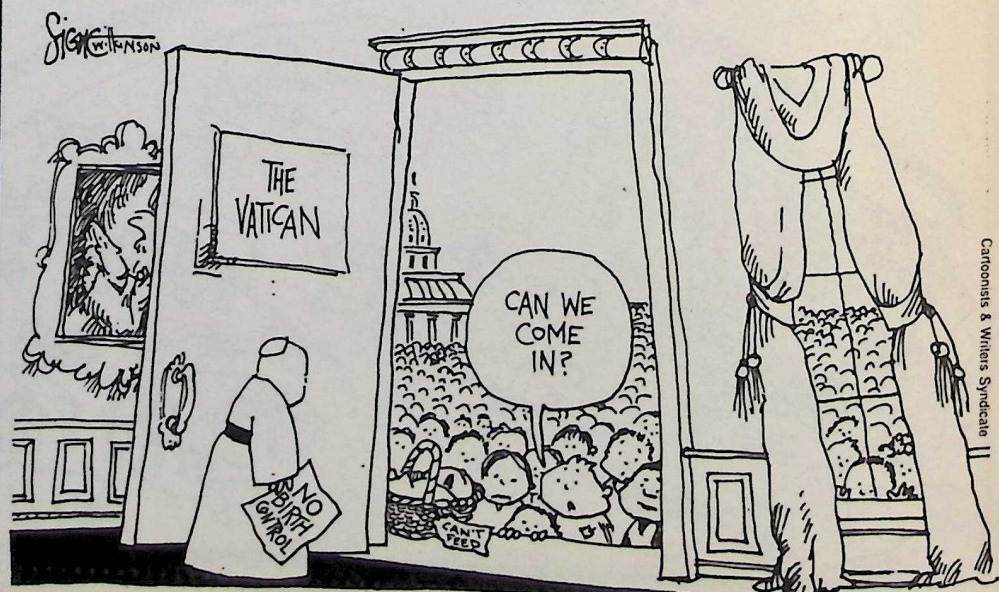


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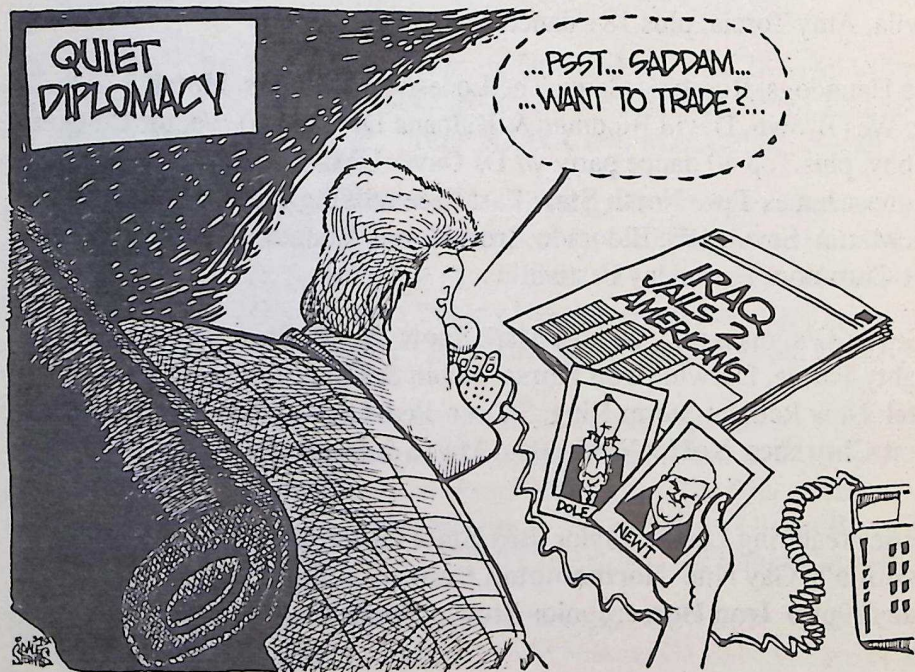
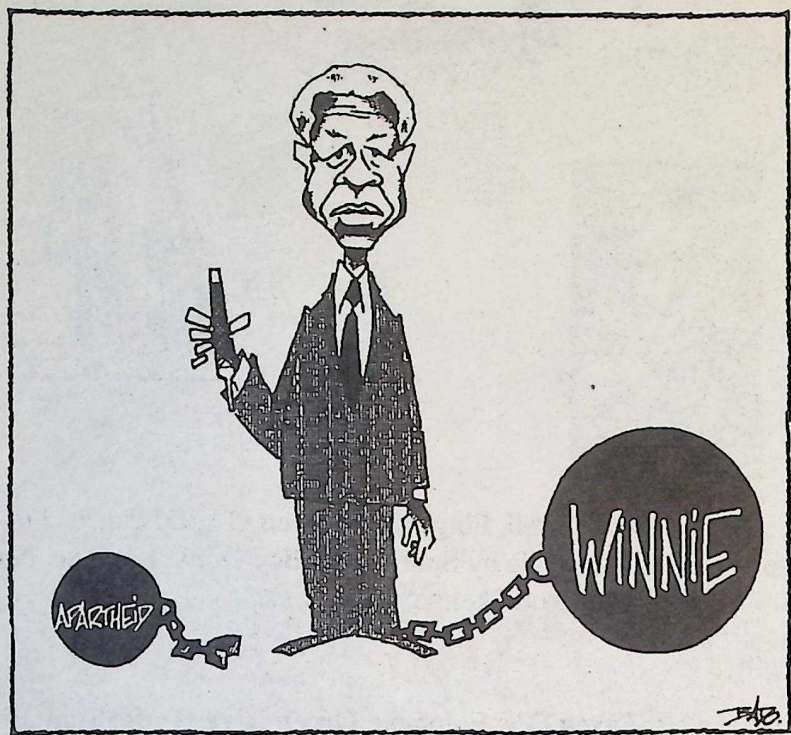
"Sniff...Sniff..."



NUKE DREAMS



...IN WEIGHTY WAYS



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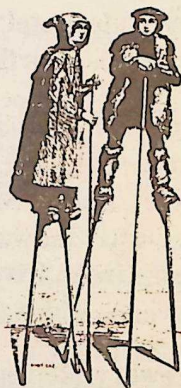
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WISCONSIN



THU TWENTY

Katina's: Selectrocution **Bay State Hotel:** Amanda's Dirty Secret, Terrell, Finger Pie **Seven O's:** DJ dance club **Pearl Street:** Merl Saunders & the Rainforest Band, plus 18+ dance music by Spin, Inc. **Alley Oops:** Karaoke **North Star:** 18+ tropical party nite w/ Creacion dance band **Fire & Water:** Rob Skelton, String Bean

FRI TWENTYONE

Pearl Street: Tony MacAlpine, plus Retro night, w/ DJ Dennis **Seven O's:** Eldorado **Green River Cafe:** Tony Bird **Hotel Northampton:** Tom Savoy **Fire & Water:** Dr. B, Brian Bender Quartet, Bud Collins **Jasper's Topside:** DJ Movin' Mike **Bay State Hotel:** (love minus zero), Evil Twins, 33 1/3 **Iron Horse:** Chris Smither, Kelly Joe Phelps **Katina's:** Rippopotamus **North Star:** Janie Avila, Amy Torcia, plus 18+ dance party w/ DJ Betsey

SAT TWENTYTWO

Katina's: Selectrocution **Bay State Hotel:** The Hangdogs, Roscoe's Gang, The Lonesome Brothers **Hotel Northampton:** Gisele L'Italien **Fire & Water:** Wes Brown, David Bindman & Kalpana Devi (8pm), Vector Chicken (10pm) **Pearl Street:** Lonnie Mack, Popa Chubby, plus Top 40 dance party w/ DJ Dave **UMass Fine Arts Center:** Dept. of Music & Dance Showcase, w/ special guest James Tate **North Star:** East Creek Swing Band, plus dance party, w/ DJ Steven **Green River Cafe:** Donna Martin **Seven O's:** Eldorado **Iron Horse:** Ronnie Earl **Greenfield Town Common:** Maple Ridge (1pm) **Amherst Common:** Earth Day Festival

SUN TWENTYTHREE

Northampton Brewery: Reejers, Miss Reed **Seven O's:** open mic, w/ host Mark Snow **North Star:** The Starlight Men, Townie Nite w/ DJ Betsey **Katina's:** Mighty Purple, Darwin **Iron Horse:** Robin & Linda Williams **Fire & Water:** Star Drooker, Jazzotree **Bay State Hotel:** New Radiant Storm King, Saucer **Pearl Street:** The Committed World Tour (stars from The Commitments) **First Churches, NoHo:** World Beat Music & Dance Ensemble

MON TWENTYFOUR

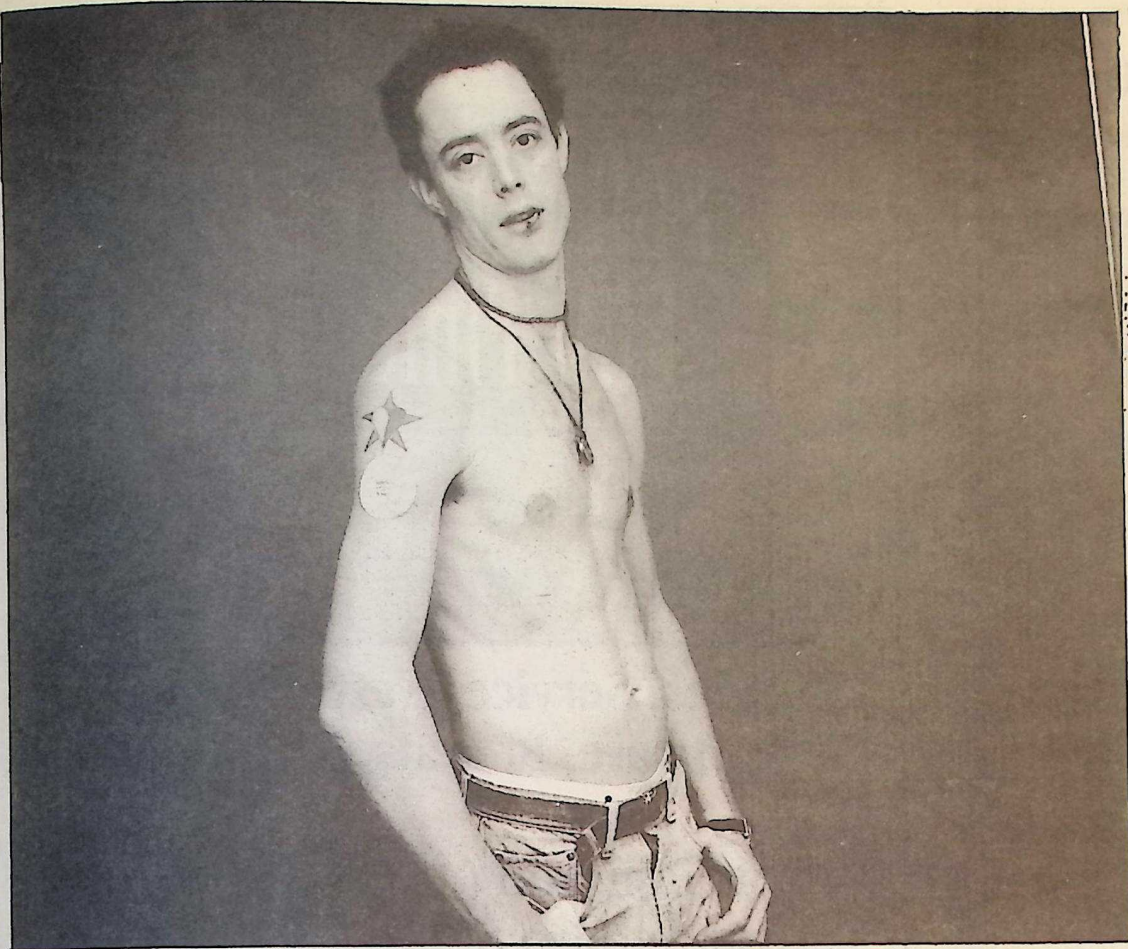
Northampton Brewery: Women's Spotlight Series featuring Lousie Taylor **Bay State Hotel:** Blue Monday, w/ Ed Vadas & The Fabulous Heavyweights (free!) **Katina's:** Gay Nite **Northampton Brewery:** Louise Taylor **Fire & Water:** Open stage (7pm), Fire & Water Big Band (9pm) **Iron Horse:** Junior Brown **North Star:** C & W nite, w/ DJ Cathy

TUE TWENTYFIVE

Northampton Brewery: open mic, w/ host The Mess (unplugged) **Fire & Water:** Rhymin' wit Jimmy Spliff, Video Politique (screening) **North Star:** Boyz Nite Out, w/ DJ Steven (lip-synch contest) **Pearl Street:** They Might Be Giants

WED TWENTYSIX

Bay State Hotel: Bay State electric open (no cover!) featuring My Life In Rain **Iron Horse:** Dougie MacLean, Lucy Kaplanski **North Star:** Motown R&B, Classic Disco **Katina's:** Blues Jam w/ Mark Nomad **Pearl Street:** Gay Night — dancing to music by Spin, Inc. **Fire & Water:** Word on Wednesday — open poetry (7pm) w/ Gail Burton



Eric Payne, local rock guitarist and occasional nicotine patch-wearer Tobey photo



THU
TWENTYSEVEN

Pearl Street: Spring Heeled Jack, plus 18+ dance party, w/ Nick Danger **Bay State Hotel:** Tizzy, Movieola
Katina's: Selectrocution **Fire & Water:** All Things Belabored (NPR News Parody), Westfield State College Jazz
Ensemble **Green River Cafe:** Max Cohen **North Star:** Tropical Party Night w/ DJ CPR **Iron Horse:** Greg Brown

FRI
TWENTYEIGHT

Fire & Water: Rite of Swing, Ron Freshley Quartet **Iron Horse:** Vance Gilbert (7pm), dancing w/ D.J. Shawnuff (10pm)
Katina's: Jiggle The Handle, yeP! **Bay State Hotel:** Ray Mason Band, Little John, Sourpuss **Amherst College:** Dinosaur
Jr, Sonic Youth **North Star:** 18+ dance party **Hotel Northampton:** Art Steele, solo **Jasper's Topside:** Swift Kicks **Seven
O's:** Flipside **Peking Garden/Humorworks:** live comedy **Pearl Street:** Southside Johnny, plus Retro night w/ DJ Dennis
Green River Cafe: Katie McDonnell **Pothole Pictures (Shelburne Falls):** Around the World in Eighty Days

SAT
TWENTYNINE

Katina's: Selectrocution **North Star:** Mary, Fred, & Terry, plus 21+ Club nite w/ DJ Steven **Seven O's:** Flipside
Black Sheep Cafe: Maple Ridge **Fire & Water:** Dr. B, Common Cents, Black Rebels **Bay State Hotel:** Supreme
Dicks, Pin Ball **Pearl Street:** J. Geils Blues Time, plus Top 40 Dance Party w/ DJ Dave **Peking
Garden/Humorworks:** Al Ducharme **Green River Cafe:** Yagottawanna **Iron Horse:** Susan Werner **Hotel
Northampton:** Ellen Cogen duo **All Souls Church, Greenfield:** Amandla record release concert

SUN
THIRTY

Iron Horse: Ranch Romance, Laura Love **Seven O's:** Open mic w/ Mark Snow **North Star:** Tea Dance (5-8pm) w/
DJ Mike K, plus Townie Nite w/ DJ Betsey **Fire & Water:** Christine Tulis (2pm), Asha Shahid-Ali & Matthew
Zapruder (poetry 7pm), Swingtime jazz (9pm) **Northampton Brewery:** New Storm Kingston Duo, Steve Westfield
& The Slow Band **Bay State Hotel:** Kevin McArty **Katina's:** Cameron's Way, Rotors to Rest **Pearl Street:** Digable
Planets **Green River Cafe:** Bill Staines **Leverett Coop:** "Green Business"—a talk by Joseph Steig (6pm)

MON
ONE

North Star: C & W Nite **Bay State Hotel:** Blue Monday, w/ Ed Vadas & The Fabulous Heavyweights (free!)
Katina's: Gay Night **Fire & Water:** Open stage (7pm)

TUE
TWO

Northampton Brewery: open mic w/ host Rockin' Dave **North Star:** Boyz Nite Out, w/ DJ Steven **Iron Horse:**
Kate & Anna McGarrigle **Mt. Holyoke College, Chapin Hall:** Toad the Wet Sprocket

WED
THREE

Northampton Brewery: HomeGrown Concert Series featuring Kevin Sisson **Katina's:** Blues Jam, w/ Mark Nomad
Bay State Hotel: Bay State electric open (no cover) **Pearl Street:** Gay Night, w/ music by Spin, Inc. **Fire & Water:**
Word on Wednesday — open poetry (7pm) **North Star:** 30-something nite

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JUNIOR BROWN

WED 26 7pm
DOUGIE MACLEAN
plus Lucy Kaplanski

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GREG BROWN

FRI 28 7pm
VANCE GILBERT

FRI 28 10pm
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TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT by L.M. Boyd

Q. At least one youngster under 15 in the United States is shot to death accidentally every day. How many are wounded daily?

A. Ten.

French actress Jeanne Moreau said, "Age doesn't protect you from love. But love, to some extent, protects you from age."

President Taft's wife sat in on every one of his cabinet meetings.

If you're an inventor, you may have heard from one of the many firms offering to promote your invention for a fee. The Federal Trade Commission reports that not one of 30,000 people who paid such promoters ever made a profit.

In Barbados, New Year's Eve is called "Old Year's Night."

Want a hobby you'll never completely master? Collect butterflies. There are more than 100,000 species.

Q. Why did the first settlers in Los Angeles choose that place to live?

A. Freshwater springs.

One out of every two automobile collisions in Sweden occurs between a car and an animal.

Albert Einstein observed, "Man cannot simultaneously prevent and prepare for war."

Lawrence of Arabia got seasick every time he rode a camel.

That bee that beats against the windowpane trying to get out? — If it can't find freedom in an hour or so, it'll probably die of stress.

A law in Macon, Georgia, stipulates that no man can put his arms around a woman without a legal reason for doing so.

Q. Why are farm alligators more dangerous than alligators out in the swamps?

A. Wild alligators still fear humans. Farm-fed alligators don't.

One of the richest men in history, Cornelius Vanderbilt, never used a checkbook. He just wrote notes on clean slips of paper, and they were said to be certifiable.

Year after year, the people hurt while dancing outnumber the people injured while practicing the martial arts.

Company rules say you can't haul bull semen on a Greyhound bus.

Students of matrimony claim if both partners are physically attractive, they have to work harder to preserve their marriage. They're both more accustomed to getting special treatment than giving it.

The Oxford sparrow naps in flight.

China in the 1400s built huge ships, and was the leading seafaring nation. Suddenly by decree, its rulers outlawed shipbuilding, and turned isolationist. Were it not for that decree, those great vessels would have dominated the oceans, and so the world.

Q. If you could string planets the size of Earth like beads, how many would fit on a straight strand between here and the moon?

A. Almost 58.

Market researchers claim the average American household uses 92 batteries a year.

As a little boy, Hugh Hefner had a blanket with bunnies all over it, and has said that that fact really did influence his life.

Pantyhose are light, warm, and supportive. An officer of the law volunteers that we'd be amazed if we knew how many policemen wear pantyhose.

Just to keep your balance while standing still, you need to work about 300 muscles.

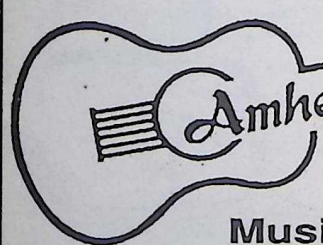
There are a few villages near the Syrian-Lebanese border where they still speak the Aramaic dialect said to have been spoken by Jesus.

Q. Where's the world's largest ice skating rink?

A. Ottawa's Rideau Canal, which runs all the way through the city. Winter commuters skate to work on it.

The incidence of lung cancer among people who live alone is double that of people who live with matrimonial mates.

Alligators can't walk backwards.



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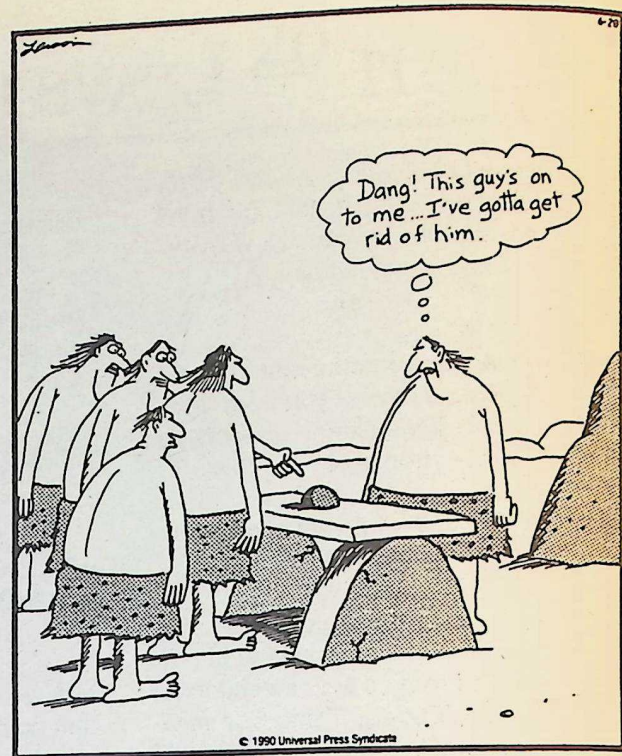
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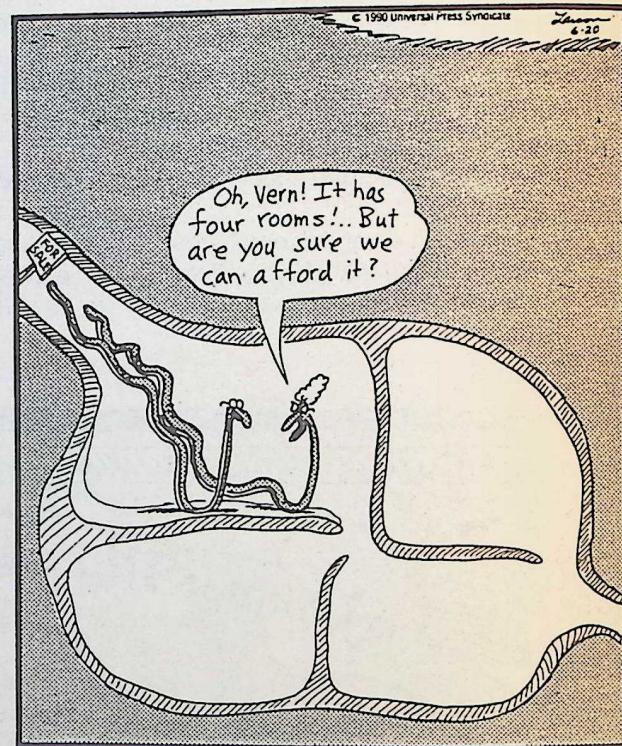


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THE FAR SIDE BY GARY LARSON



Early shell games




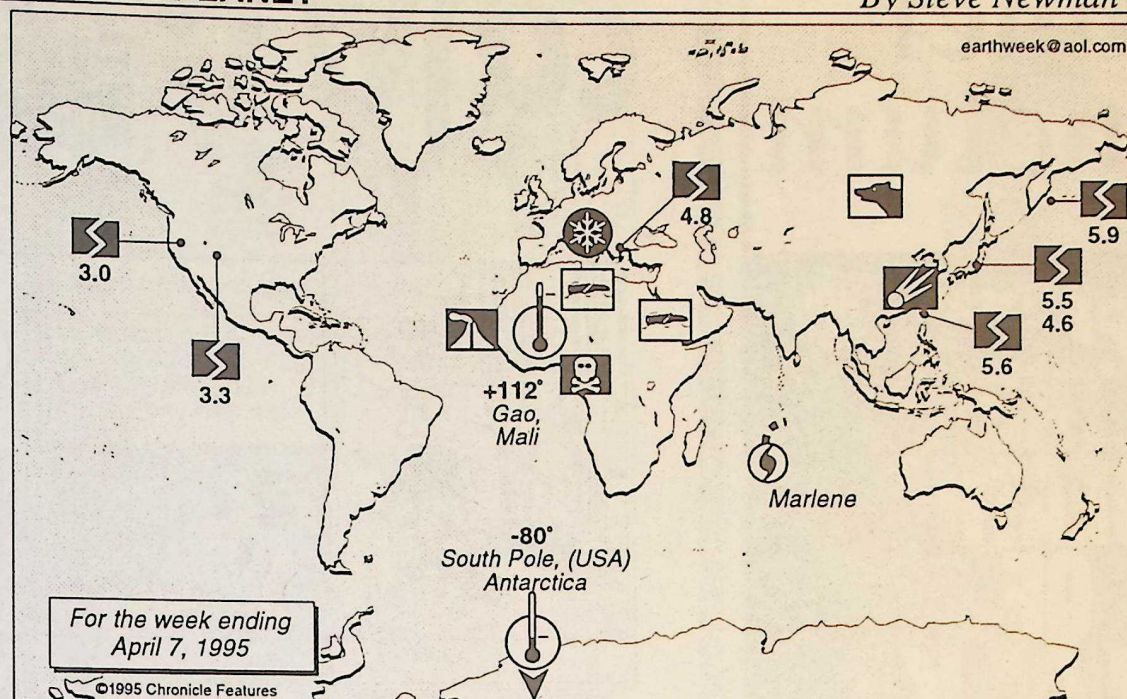
Tapeworms in a cow's stomach




Someone for everyone

The Nyos Organ


 French scientists have devised a creative technique to remove carbon dioxide gas from Cameroon's Lake Nyos, in an effort to prevent a repetition of a 1986 disaster that killed 1,746 sleeping villagers. Dubbed "The Nyos Organ," as in pipe organ, the process involves lowering a network of pipes to the bottom of the lake, where the colder waters above have trapped a layer of the deadly gas. Volcanic activity below the lake causes the gas layer to grow until tremors or strong winds result in a sudden surge to the surface. Since carbon dioxide is heavier than air, it then stays close to the ground and can cause residents to suffocate without warning. If successful, the pilot project, financed by the Fondation Gaz de France and the European Union, will be followed by a \$100 million permanent installation.




Eruption

 The Cape Verde government placed an armada of ships on standby to evacuate residents of the island of Fogo after the Pico de Fogo Volcano erupted in a fiery display for the first time in 44 years. More than 3,000 villagers on the mountain's slopes were evacuated to the town of Mosteiros, where the island's main port and only airport are located.

Mounting Invasion


 A major outbreak of desert locust activity has occurred in northwest Africa and the Middle East just as rainy weather conditions have made spring breeding areas more favorable for locust reproduction, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization warned. Intense spring breeding is feared in the Algerian Sahara, southeast Morocco, the Sudanese coastal plains and in the Arabian Peninsula.

Earthquakes


 At least 39 people were injured when a powerful temblor damaged or destroyed more than 500 buildings in northwestern Japan. Centered near the city of Niigata, the quake was felt as far away as Tokyo and Yokohama, and was followed by several strong aftershocks.

Earth movements were also felt in Taiwan, northern Greece, the Kamchatka peninsula, Colorado, and along the Washington-Oregon border.


Tropical Storms

 Late-season tropical cyclone Marlene formed over the open waters of the central Indian Ocean, just southwest of the British military base at Diego Garcia. After briefly packing maximum sustained winds of 130 miles per hour, the storm lost force as it moved over cooler waters to the south.

Ice Meteors

 Chinese experts, saying it could be a scientific first, have recovered what they believe to be chunks of meteoric ice that plummeted to earth in Zhejiang province. Amateur geologist Zhong Gongpei was nearby when farmers saw three large chunks of ice crash into paddy fields, leaving cloudy streaks in the atmosphere. Gongpei recovered one sample and took it to a frozen food company for storage. Scientists say the irregular object is about the size of a human fist and does not have the layered structure of hailstones. It will be analyzed to detect isotopes and cosmic dust.


Late Winter

 An unusually late blast of arctic air descended upon Europe, bringing blizzard conditions as far south as Sicily where scores of villages were isolated by heavy snowfall. Four people died across Germany in acci-

dents linked to the icy conditions.

Croatia was lashed by wintry winds and heavy snows that damaged fruit plantations and downed telephone and power lines.

Bear Buddy

 Hunters examining a den in Russia's Okhinsky district were startled to discover a wanted criminal snoozing in a warm embrace with a hibernating bear. The Itar-Tass news agency reported that the awakened fugitive was incoherent and could not explain why he had taken up winter residence with the bruin near Lake Baykal. It was also unclear why the bear had not reacted to the man's intrusion. Missing since last autumn, Victor P. was taken to a nearby clinic where medics could find no "pathological deviations in the patient."

Additional Sources: Smithsonian Institution's Global Volcanism Network, U.S. Climate Analysis Center, Météo France, U.S. Earthquake Information Center and the United Nations World Meteorological Organization.

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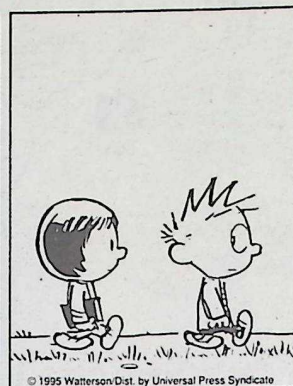
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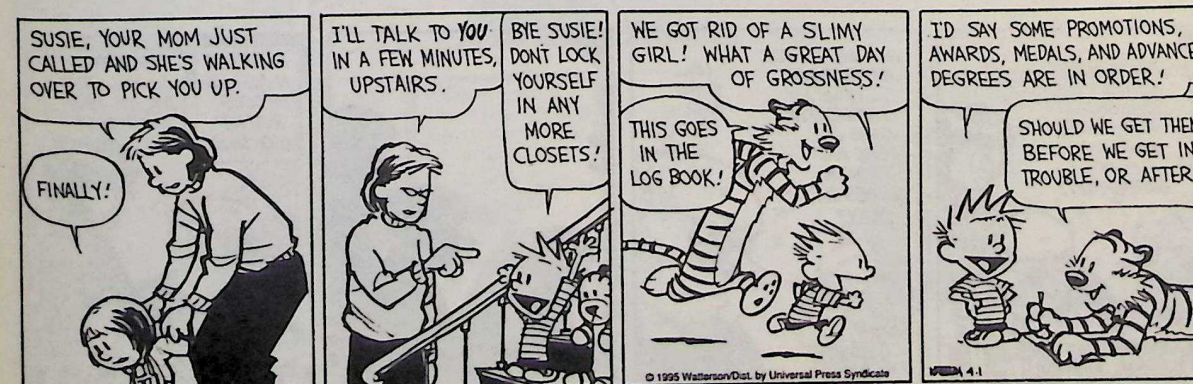
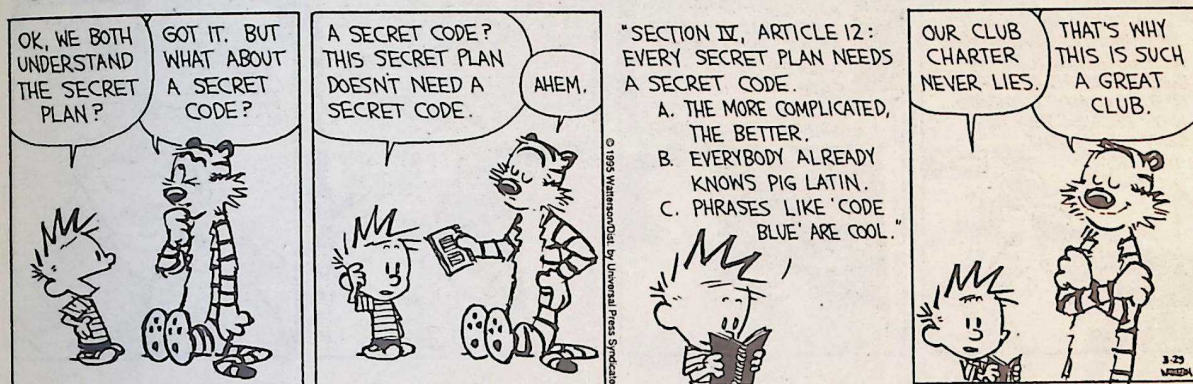
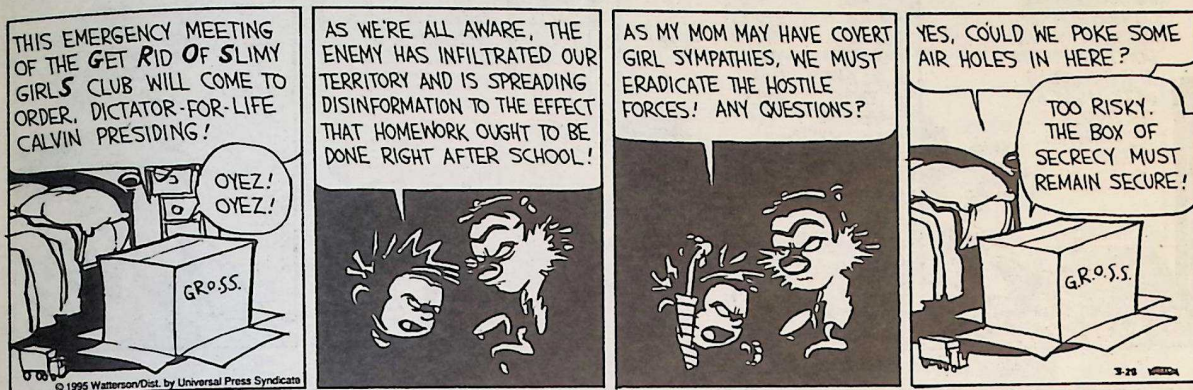
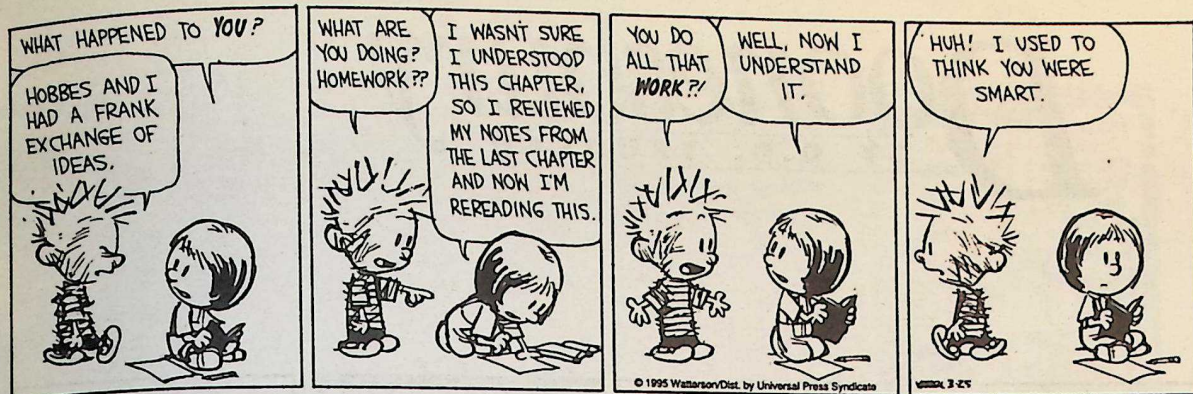


Photo: Jennifer Burdick



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Do you see that dirty little spot down there?

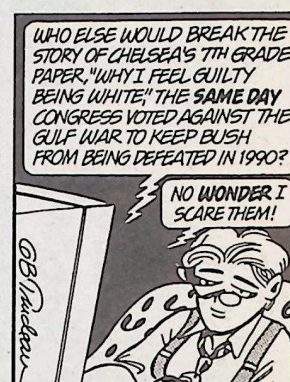
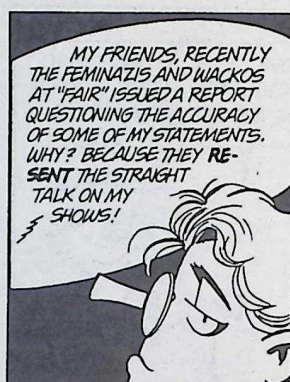
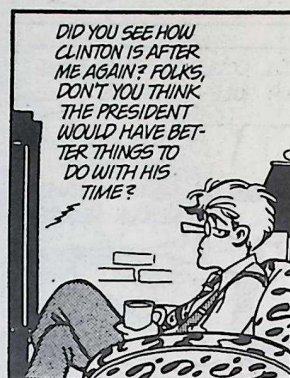
That is where the insurance industry and the health care providers meet.

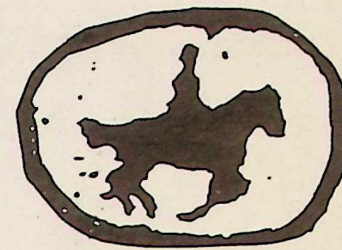
Some other people meet there too.

It's certainly a dirty little spot.

Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU





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